

Redstone Rocket

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Looking toward joining your team

*Next commander of
SMDC/ARSTRAT
addresses Huntsville conference*

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

In his first official appearance in Huntsville as the next commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, Maj. Gen. Richard Formica expressed what has become a common theme among the officers who find themselves assigned to Redstone Arsenal — an appreciation for the opportunities and synergy that such an assignment can bring.

"I sincerely look forward to joining your team here in Huntsville ... Thank you for your commitment to Soldiers and families," Formica said, mentioning the community's technology expertise and military support.

Formica, who is currently serving on the headquarters staff at the Department of the Army, was most recently the commanding general of the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan. He has been selected for promotion and to become the commander of SMDC/ARSTRAT upon the retirement of current SMDC/ARSTRAT commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell.

Formica's remarks, made during his Aug. 17 luncheon keynote address at the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference at the Von Braun Center, were fitting for an event dedicated to yet another general — retired Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, a former commander of both the Aviation and Missile Command, and SMDC/ARSTRAT who died earlier this year — and recognizing the best Soldiers in air and missile defense.

"He was a man of substance dedicated to this Army," Campbell told atten-

dees at the opening of the conference as he made the dedication to Dodgen.

"When you talk about Army values and the warrior ethics, this man certainly lived by those. If those are the standards by which we judge a Soldier, then Larry Dodgen gets an A plus."

Dodgen was remembered at a conference that also introduced SMDC/ARSTRAT's most recognized Soldiers. The command's NCO of the Year — Staff Sgt. James Harris, Delta Detachment, 1st Space Brigade — and Soldier of the Year — Spc. Matthew McLeod, Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, 1st Space Brigade — were recognized along with five Soldiers — Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Hart, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Ahlborn, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Collins, Staff Sgt. Guy Jackson and Staff Sgt. James Harris, all of the 1st Space Brigade — who were inducted into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club.

"These Soldiers are in the top 2 percent of NCO officers in the Army," presenter 1st Sgt. William Murphy of SMDC/ARSTRAT Headquarters and Headquarters Company said of the Audie Murphy honorees. "They were selected by their leadership, professionalism and overall general military knowledge."

Murphy, now deceased, is a Medal of Honor recipient and a legendary World War II combat Soldier. After the war, he became a Hollywood star and appeared in 44 motion pictures, one of which was

based on his autobiography "To Hell and Back." In the 1960s, Murphy spoke out about his own problems with post traumatic stress disorder (then called battle fatigue), and urged the government to give more study to the emotional impact of war and to extend health care benefits to address the mental health problems of war veterans.

Although Formica's remarks were related mainly to the Army's future, its air defense capabilities and how it is transforming to meet the responsibilities for air and missile defense, the two-star general also spoke about the cost that today's wars, conflicts and humanitarian efforts are having on the human side of the Army.

"Our Army, as you know, is stretched by nine years of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq ... and humanitarian missions around the world in places like Haiti, Pakistan and elsewhere," he said. "Global security needs will continue to strain our forces and be characterized by persistent conflict."

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Photo by Kari Hawkins

FIRST APPEARANCE— Maj. Gen. Richard Formica, who currently serves on the headquarters staff at the Department of the Army, shares his views on the future of the Army's air and missile defense efforts at the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference. Formica, who will assume command of the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command upon the retirement of Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, also mentioned his appreciation for an assignment that will bring him to Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville.

Growing up to chase space dream

Army astronaut among featured guests at annual conference

By KARI HAWKINS
Assistant editor
kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

The 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference drew about 1,100 paid attendees and about 270 exhibitors to the Von Braun Center Aug. 16-19 under the theme "Enabling Regional Warfighters."

It included presentations on integrated missile defense, regional missile defense, the new Cyber Huntsville initiative promoted by Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle, the next generation of missile defense, and the use of space assets to enable the war fighter.

The conference also drew several special guests, including aviation and military authors, and Lt. Col. Shane Kimbrough, an Army astronaut assigned to the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Kimbrough signed autographs at the SMDC/ARSTRAT exhibit area during the conference.

Kimbrough graduated from West Point in 1989 and was an Apache helicopter pilot before being selected for the astronaut corps by NASA in 2004. He completed his first space flight in November 2008 as a member of the STS-126 Endeavour. During that flight, he logged 15 days, 20



Photo by Kari Hawkins

AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE— Lt. Col. Shane Kimbrough talks with Staff Sgt. James Harris, the Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command NCO of the year, about space exploration during the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference at the Von Braun Center.

hours, 29 minutes and 37 seconds in space and completed two space walks.

"I always wanted to become an astronaut as a kid. I grew up watching man on the moon," Kimbrough said. "But when I was chosen for an appointment to West Point, I thought the dream was gone."

His Army career took him to Operation Desert Storm, where he served with the 24th Infantry Division as an Apache attack helicopter platoon leader, aviation liaison officer

and attack helicopter battalion operations officer. He also commanded an Apache helicopter company and a regimental headquarters company while assigned to the 229th Aviation Regiment at Fort Bragg, N.C., and served as an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at West Point.

Along the way, Kimbrough had a chance meeting with a fellow Army aviation officer who was also an astronaut.

"He made me realize I can actually do this thing," he said. "So, I headed down that path knowing that my chances were slim."

But Kimbrough's Army operational experience along with his achievements as an Apache helicopter pilot and an Army leader made him a top candidate for the NASA astronaut corps.

"Ninety percent of us are aviators and we have flown in tough situations," Kimbrough said. "That experience and our training make it easier for us to adapt to the harsh and austere environment of space."

Besides his military experience, Kimbrough had other things to offer NASA. Knowing how to react in worst case scenarios, leading others and "knowing how to be a good follower when you are not in charge" are all skills NASA is looking for in its astronauts, he said.

He encouraged anyone interested in the astronaut corps to pursue their dream, but to not focus all their efforts on that one goal.

"I planned my career on not getting selected. You need to do what you like to do and maybe NASA will work out for you," he said. "A master's degree in math, science or engineering may open the door to NASA or give you another exciting career. You need to set yourself up for success even if you don't make it as an astronaut."

Among SMD conference highlights was the awarding of the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association Loretta Spencer Scholarship to six college students. The scholarship recipients are studying engineering or a hard science related to space and missile defense. The scholarship was named after Spencer in recognition of her efforts to encourage the education of youth in science and engineering, and in recognition of her financial support for the ASDMA scholarship fund.

This year's recipients of the \$4,000 scholarships are: Christopher Peterson, a junior at Syracuse University majoring in aerospace engineering; Amber Kaderbek, a junior at the University of Alabama majoring in chemical engineering; Paul Bisso, an engineer with the Missile Defense Agency pursuing a master's in physics from the University of Alabama-Huntsville; Jesus Ortega Mares Jr., a senior mechanical engineering student at the University of Alabama; Christopher Romanczuk, a junior at Rice University majoring in chemical and bio-molecular engineering; and Robert Woods, a junior at Auburn University majoring in chemistry.

■ Space/missile conference emphasizes global security SMDC

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The proliferation of weapons by rogue nations – ballistic and cruise missiles as well as weapons of mass destruction – combined with issues related to failing states and governments, cause the Army

to be increasingly out of balance, he said, with active duty units deploying every second year and Reserve units deploying every fourth year.

"Soldiers and families are stressed by the strain of multiple deployments. Today's Army is working hard to bring itself back into balance," Formica said, adding that the Navy, Air Force and Marines along with contractors and coalition partners are all helping to shoulder the cost of war.

Formica listed four key imperatives to restoring the Army's balance – sustaining and growing the volunteer force, preparing Soldiers with better training and support, modernizing equipment, and transforming the Army's processes and tactics.

He believes the Army can regain its balance by the end of fiscal 2011 and meet the challenges of the future if it works to support democratic governments worldwide, engage in the development of democratic societies, support civil authorities, and deter and defeat hybrid threats.

To that end, the Army requires "disciplined units and Soldiers" that are versatile, agile, lethal, expeditionary, interoperable and sustainable. Most of all, the Army requires "resilient Soldiers and families," he said.

The Army needs "integrated air and missile defense forces" to protect the homeland and coalition forces and allies, and to deter would-be aggressors, he continued.

When it comes to air and missile defense capabilities, "over 90 percent of Army Patriot forces are deployed ... The air and missile defense force is growing. There will be 15 battalions by the end of fiscal 2010 and an increasing demand of deployment of these units," Formica said.

The Army is also growing the number of Patriot Advance Capability 3 and Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile batteries and Avenger battalions. It is expanding THAAD and Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor capabilities, and modernizing air and missile defense equipment (such as the new Medium Extended Air Defense System) while maintaining capabilities in a "complex and changing operational environment," he said. MEADS is intended to replace the aging Patriot missile system through a NATO-managed development project involving the U.S., Germany and Italy.

Formica went on to say that "integrated air and missile defense is inherently a joint venture. It is complex and involves numerous stakeholders. Air and missile defense capabilities feature prominently at the U.S. strategic and combatant commands."

Transforming the Army is about keeping a strong force structure while lowering costs, he said. To do that, the Army must "leverage



Photo by Kari Hawkins

RECOGNIZING EFFORTS— Five Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade gain the appreciation of the audience at the opening ceremony of the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference as they are introduced as inductees in the prestigious Sgt. Audie Murphy Club by 1st Sgt. William Murphy of the SMDC/ARSTRAT Headquarters and Headquarters Company. The five Soldiers are, from left, Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Hart, Sgt. 1st Class Charles Ahlborn, Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Collins, Staff Sgt. Guy Jackson and Staff Sgt. James Harris, all of the 1st Space Brigade.

capabilities that already exist and that enable us to integrate rather than replicate the considerable capabilities of the commands."

"Your Army is strained by the demands of war and our many global commitments," Formica said. "It continues to transform to remain relevant and ready for the future. And the (air and missile defense) force will remain a critical and viable capability that we expect to be in high demand today and in the future."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

DEMONSTRATION— Evan Hart of SAIC demonstrates the use of a laser and a coordinate measuring machine to collect data that develops a CAD model for radar signature analysis and infrared analysis. Watching the demonstration are Dee Formby and Stephanie Cleveland, who work in the Space and Missile Defense Command's Concepts Analysis Lab.

Synergy theme unites conference speakers

Collaboration on all fronts leads to strong defense

By KARI HAWKINS

Assistant editor

kari.hawkins@us.army.mil

Two general officers, who work daily to address the security threats in existence in Europe and globally, called for a collaborative approach to regional and worldwide missile defense during their Aug. 17 presentations at the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference.

Lt. Gen. John Gardner, deputy commander for the U.S. European Command, and Maj. Gen. Abraham Turner, chief of staff for the U.S. Strategic Command, both emphasized that the success of the nation's first theater for regional missile defense – the U.S. European Command – can only be achieved with a cooperative approach that involves European allies and NATO. Their comments spoke to the theme of the conference – “Enabling Regional Warfighters.”

Finding the best ways to build capabilities together is the key that will ensure long-term regional missile defense, the two generals said during separate presentations.

Gardner said there are four focuses of the “highly collaborative effort” in Europe – building the right capabilities with European partners, supporting NATO and NATO transformation, assisting with training and equipping the forces of European partners that are deployed to Afghanistan, and assisting European nations with countering transnational threats and U.S. government agencies in their counterdrug, counterproliferation and counterpiracy operations.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

NETWORKING TEAM— Maj. Gen. Genaro Dellarocco, program executive officer for missiles and space, third from left, talks about the business of air and missile defense while standing near part of the PEO for Missiles and Space exhibit at the Space and Missile Defense Conference. With Dellarocco are, from left, Sgt. Kevin McGovern of PEO for Missiles and Space; Mike Berry, deputy program executive officer of PEO Missiles and Space; and Col. Rod McCants, deputy commander for air defense.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REGIONAL TALK— Lt. Gen. John Gardner, deputy commander of the U.S. European Command, carries the message of collaboration and synergy at the 13th annual Space and Missile Defense Conference through his comments on regional missile defense on Aug. 17. The theme for this year's conference was “Enabling Regional Warfighters.”

Providing regional missile defense first involves “knowing what the threat is and what it is doing so we can engage,” Gardner said. “Second, it is about developing a process to manage our readiness posture. How do we manage the entire (missile defense) architecture so that it's ready when we need it but not standing firm all the time?”

It also involves establishing missile defense architecture without redundancies, a response command and control that takes into account the human element, clear and agreed upon rules of engagement for “short time and short focus situations,” a defined critical asset list, preplanned responses and frequent rehearsals.

“The time between when (aggressor) missiles are launched and when you have to react are relatively short,” Gardner said. “You need to know your responses so it becomes drill-like, and that requires a certain amount of energy to prepare.”

The U.S. has been involved with such training with Israel in a project called Juniper Cobra 10. Soldiers involved in the training participated in “simulations of a range of different attacks” that provided insights into policy, defense design and planning considerations, information exchange requirements, how to establish a common tactical picture with one or multiple national partners and debris issues.

“For us, this was a great event that focused energy on a lot of core tasks and missions,” the three-star general said.

Gardner introduced his audience to the Phased Adaptive Approach to missile defense in Europe, which involves deploying an increasingly capable ballistic missile defense program over the next decade. That program would involve radars, command and control systems, ship-based

Aegis systems, Standard Missile 3 interceptors, a land-based version of Aegis and variants of the SM-3.

“PAA will be the U.S. contribution to the NATO effort. If NATO elects missile defense as its primary mission, then this is the U.S. contribution,” the general said.

PAA is a collaborative effort involving the Department of State, the Missile Defense Agency and other agencies. Work is being done to prioritize assets and common practices, Gardner said, so that “as we look worldwide, how does the process best support everyone?”

PAA – and the strong air and missile defense program it offers — is the “fighter's stance” that the U.S. and NATO need to take in Europe to protect allies and troops, and to deter enemies from attacking in the first place, said Turner during his presentation.

“It's like taking up a fighter's stance,” the two-star general said. “You want to be well-balanced, prepared to strike if someone tries to strike you.”

The threat in Europe is very real, he said. Iran has hundreds of ballistic missiles to threaten its neighbors, deployed troops and southern Europe. It is friendly with North Korea, which has its own longer-range ballistic missile program that it has open-

ly tested with launches across the Sea of Japan.

“This is a case where actions do speak louder than words,” Turner said.

But, while the U.S. should be concerned about the intent of both Korea and Iran, it can't and shouldn't “bear the responsibility of global missile defense alone,” he said.

“We will be a part of any future NATO-wide missile defense architecture ... and the U.S. will provide a leadership role in missile defense. The key guiding principles of missile defense is to build it regionally based on strong relationships and to think strategically.”

Toward that end, the U.S. is actively seeking to engage Russia and China on missile defense.

“Integrated missile defense is not an issue only for the U.S. It demands teamwork,” Turner said. “It demands a collective international approach.”

The threats in existence around the world should be enough to convince U.S. allies and nations like Russia and China to address the importance of integrated missile defense.

“The threats do exist. Some may be saber rattling. But we cannot discount the threats around the world,” Turner said.

“We need a broad and collaborative approach with our international partners. Integrated missile defense ensures our collective security now and into the future.”